

IN THE CLAIMS

1-11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44, wherein steps (a) and (b) utilize an identity and a plurality of activity attributes for each of said first and second activities.

13. (Currently amended) The method of claim 12, wherein said activity attributes are selected from the group consisting of: start time, end time and item used in said industrial process.

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said item is an equipment, and wherein said activity attributes have an attribute value selected from the group consisting of: date and/or time and device of said equipment used in said industrial process.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein at least one of said attribute values of said second activity matches at least one of said attribute values of said first activity.

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44, wherein step (b) identifies said second activity with a reference selected from the group consisting of: time based reference with respect to said first activity, direct reference to said first activity and indirect reference to said first activity.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein said time based reference is with respect to said first activity, and wherein all sub-activities are retrieved that are framed at least in part by said first activity.

18. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein said direct reference directly refers to said first activity.
19. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein said indirect reference includes a reference to an item used by said industrial process during said first activity.
20. (Canceled)
21. (Canceled)
22. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 45, wherein said activity attributes are selected from the group consisting of: start time, end time and item used in said industrial process.
23. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein said item is an equipment, and wherein said activity attributes have an attribute value selected from the group consisting of: date and/or time and device of said equipment used in said industrial process.
24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein at least one of said attribute values of said second activity matches at least one of said attribute values of said first activity.
25. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 45, wherein said access request identifies said second activity with a reference selected from the group consisting of: time based reference with respect to said first activity , direct reference to said first activity and indirect reference to said first activity.

26. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein said time based reference is with respect to said first activity, and wherein all sub-activities are retrieved that are framed at least in part by said first activity.

27. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein said direct reference directly refers to said first activity.

28. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein said indirect reference includes a reference to an item used by said industrial process during said first activity.

29-33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently amended) A computer apparatus for accessing data of an industrial process, said apparatus comprising:

a processor and an activity framing program that responds to input data entered by a user to define a data structure,

wherein said activity framing program responds to said input data to define said data structure with a plurality of activities of said industrial process, at least a first attribute of a first one of said activities, and at least one attribute of a second one of said activities, wherein said second activity is framed at least in part by said first activity, and

wherein said framing program further responds to a request that identifies said first activity and said first attribute of said first activity by using said data structure to access said data of said industrial process to retrieve activity data of said second activity.

35. (Previously presented) The computer apparatus of claim 34, wherein said first attribute of said first activity has an attribute value that is linked to said second activity, and wherein said request additionally identifies said attribute value.

36. (Currently amended) The computer apparatus of claim 35, wherein said first attribute identifies an item used in said industrial process and said attribute value identifies a device that is associated with said item and that is linked to said second activity.

37. (Previously presented) The computer apparatus of claim 34, wherein said first activity further comprises a second attribute, and wherein said first and second attributes define start and end times of said first activity, respectively.

38. (Previously presented) The computer apparatus of claim 34, wherein said activity data is stored in a database.

39. (Previously presented) The computer apparatus of claim 38, wherein said data structure is stored in one of said database and a separate memory.

40. (Currently amended) A method for using a computer to access data of an industrial process, said method comprising:

operating said computer with an activity framing program in response to input data entered by a user to define a data structure,

wherein said activity framing program responds to said input data to define said data structure with a plurality of activities of said industrial process, at least a first attribute of a first one of said activities, and at least one attribute of a second one of said activities, wherein said second activity is framed at least in part by said first activity, and

wherein said framing program further responds to a request that identifies said first activity and said first attribute of said first activity by using said data structure to access said data of said industrial process to retrieve activity data of said second activity.

41. (Previously presented) The method of claim 40, wherein said first attribute of said first activity has an attribute value that is linked to said second activity, and wherein said request additionally identifies said attribute value

42. (Previously presented) The method of claim 41, wherein said first attribute identifies an item and said attribute value identifies a device that is associated with said item and that is linked to said second activity.

43. (Currently amended) A memory media for controlling a computer to process data of an industrial process, said memory media comprising:
program instructions of an activity framing program for controlling a computer in response to input data entered by a user to define a data structure, wherein said activity framing program responds to said input data to define said data structure with a plurality of activities of said industrial process, at least a first attribute of a first one of said activities, and at least one attribute of a second one of said activities, wherein said second activity is framed at least in part by said first activity, and
wherein said framing program further responds to a request that identifies said first activity and said first attribute of said first activity by using said data structure to access said data of said industrial process to retrieve activity data of said second activity.

44. (Currently amended) A method for using a computer to access data of an industrial process that is stored in a memory, said method comprising:

(a) generating an access request that is based on a data structure that comprises a plurality of activities of said industrial process, one or more attributes of a first one of said activities, and one or more attributes of a second one of said activities, wherein said second activity is framed at least in part by said first activity, wherein said request identifies said first activity and said first attribute of said first activity; and

(b) in response to said access request, using said data structure to access said memory to retrieve activity data of said second activity.

45. (Currently amended) A computer apparatus for accessing data of an industrial process that is stored in a memory, said computer apparatus comprising:

a processor and a framing program that generates an access request that is based on a data structure that comprises a plurality of activities of said industrial process, one or more attributes of a first one of said activities, and one or more attributes of a second one of said activities, wherein said second activity is framed at least in part by said first activity, wherein said request identifies said first activity and said first attribute of said first activity; and

wherein said processor in response to said access request, uses said data structure to access said memory to retrieve activity data of said second activity.

46. (Currently amended) A memory media for controlling a computer to access data of an industrial process, said memory media comprising:

program instructions of an activity framing program for controlling a computer to generate an access request that is based on a data structure that comprises a plurality of activities of said industrial process, one or more attributes of a first one of said activities, and one or more attributes of a second one of said activities, wherein said second activity is framed at least in part by said first activity, wherein said request identifies said first activity and said first attribute of said first activity; and

wherein said program instructions cause said computer to respond to said access request by using said data structure to access said memory to retrieve activity data of said second activity.